

CLAIMS

1. Method for determining the reclose time of a circuit breaker (6) on an electric network, said 5 network comprising:

- a high voltage source (S),
- a three-phase transmission line (L),
- a circuit breaker (6) comprising at least three pairs of contacts (7A,8A; 7B,8B; 7C,8C), each pair 10 being associated with one of the three phases (A, B C) of said line (L) and enabling the interruption of any current circulating between said source (S) and said line (L) by separating said contacts in the event of a fault on the associated phase, the first 15 contact being on the source side and the second contact being on the line side,
- a shunt compensation reactor (5) to compensate capacitive reactive power of said line (L),

20 said reclose time being determined in the event of separation of the contacts of each pair of contacts in the presence of a fault on one of the three phases, said determination of said reclose time being made using the following steps:

- measuring the voltage ( $UL_{A0}$ ,  $UL_{B0}$ ,  $UL_{C0}$ ) between the 25 line side contact and earth for each of the phases,
- measuring the voltage ( $US_{A0}$ ) between the source side contact and earth for at least one phase,
- determining the voltage ( $US_{A0}$ ,  $US_{B0}$ ,  $US_{C0}$ ) between the source side contact and earth for each of the 30 phases,

35 said determination of said reclose time being

characterized in that it also comprises the following steps:

- calculating, for two separate phases called first and second phases, the voltage difference ( $UL_{AB}$ ,  $UL_{AC}$ ,  $UL_{BC}$ ) between the line side contact and earth for said first phase, and the voltage difference between the line side contact and earth for said second phase, the calculation being made for each pair of separate phases,
- 5 - calculating the voltage difference ( $US_{AB}$ ,  $US_{AC}$ ,  $US_{BC}$ ) between the source side contact and earth for said first phase, and the voltage difference between the source side contact and earth for said second phase, the calculation being made for each pair of separate phases,
- 10 - determining said reclose time on the basis of said voltage differences.
- 15
- determining said reclose time on the basis of said voltage differences.

2. Method for determining the reclose time of a circuit breaker on an electric network according to the preceding claim, characterized in that said determination of said reclose time ( $T$ ) is made by comparing said voltage differences ( $US_{BC}$ ,  $UL_{BC}$ ) between two healthy phases on the line side and source side.

25

3. Method for determining the reclose time of a circuit breaker on an electric network as in the preceding claim, characterized in that said determination of said reclose time ( $T$ ) is made by determining the time at which the two signals corresponding to said voltage differences ( $US_{BC}$ ,  $UL_{BC}$ )

between two healthy phases on the line side and source side are substantially equal and show the same monotony over a non-zero interval about said time.

5        4. Method for determining the reclose time of a circuit breaker on an electric network as in any of the preceding claims, characterized in that said determination of the voltage ( $U_{SA0}$ ,  $U_{SB0}$ ,  $U_{SC0}$ ) between the source side contact and earth for each of the 10 phases is made by  $120^\circ$  and  $240^\circ$  phase shifting of said voltage ( $U_{SA0}$ ) measured between the source side contact and earth for at least one phase.

15        5. Method for determining the reclose time of a circuit breaker on an electric network as in any of the preceding claims, characterized in that said measurement of the voltage between the line side contact and earth for each phase is made using a voltage transformer (4).